

INTERNET DRAFT  
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Library of Congress  
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**The Media Types application/mods+xml, application/mads+xml,  
application/mets+xml, application/marcxml+xml, application/sru+xml**

draft-denenberg-mods-etc-media-types-00

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## **Abstract**

This document specifies Media Types for the following formats: MODS (*Metadata Object Description Schema*), MADS (*Metadata Authority Description Schema*), METS (*Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard*), MARCXML (*MARC21 XML Schema*), and the SRU (*Search/Retrieve via URL Response Format*) Protocol response XML schema. These are all XML schemas providing representations of various forms of information including metadata and search results.

## 1. Introduction

The Library of Congress, on behalf of and in collaboration with various components of the metadata and information retrieval community, has issued specifications which define formats for representation of various forms of information including metadata and search results. This memo provides information about the Media Types associated with several of these formats, all of which are XML schemas.

- **MODS:** *Metadata Object Description Schema*.  
An XML schema for a bibliographic element set that may be used for a variety of purposes, and particularly for library applications.
- **MADS:** *Metadata Authority Description Schema*  
An XML schema for an authority element set used to provide metadata about agents (people, organizations), events, and terms (topics, geographics, genres, etc.). It is a companion to the MODS Schema.
- **METS:** *Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard*  
An XML schema for encoding descriptive, administrative, and structural metadata regarding objects within a digital library.
- **MARCXML MARC21 XML Schema**  
An XML schema for the direct XML representation of the MARC format (for which there already exists a media type, application/marc; see <http://www.faqs.org/rfcs/rfc2220.html>.) By "direct XML representation" we mean that it encodes the actual MARC data within XML. (This is in contrast to MODS: MARC uses codes for its element names; MODS represents the same information but uses semantically meaningful names while MARCXML uses the MARC codes.)
- **SRU:** *Search/Retrieve via URL Response Format*  
An XML schema for the SRU response. SRU is a protocol, and the media type sru+xml pertains specifically to the default SRU response. the SRU response may be supplied in any of a number of suitable schemas, RSS, ATOM, for example, and the client identifies the desired format in the request, hence the need for a media type. This mechanism will be introduced in SRU 2.0; in previous versions (that is, all versions to date; 2.0 is in development) all responses are supplied in the existing default format, so no media type was necessary. SRU 2.0 is being developed within OASIS.

## 2. Registration Information for mods+xml

- *Type name:* **application**
- *Subtype name:* **mods+xml**
- *Required parameters:* **none**
- *Optional parameters:*  
**charset:** This parameter has semantics identical to the charset parameter of the "application/xml" media type as specified in [RFC 3023](#).

- *Encoding considerations:*  
**Identical to those of "application/xml" as described in [RFC 3023](#).**
- *Security considerations:*  
**The same security considerations as described in [RFC 3023](#), Section 10.**
- *Interoperability considerations:*  
**There are no known interoperability issues.**
- *Published specifications:*
  - **The MODS XML schema is at:**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mods/mods.xsd>.
  - **The home page for the MODS specification is**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mods/>
- *Applications that use this media type:*  
**Various MODS conformant toolkits use these respective media type.**
- *Additional information:* **None.**
- *Magic number(s):* **None**
- *File extension(s):* **.mods**
- *Macintosh file type code(s):* **TEXT**
- *Person & email address to contact for further information:*  
**Ray Denenberg, [rden@loc.gov](mailto:rden@loc.gov)**
- *Intended usage:* **common**
- *Restrictions on usage:* **none**
- *Author/Change controller*  
**The MODS specification was developed by the Library of Congress and is maintained by the Library of Congress in conjunction with the [MODS Editorial Committee](#) which has change control over the specification.**

### **3. Registration Information for mads+xml**

- *Type name:* **application**
- *Subtype name:* **mads+xml**
- *Required parameters:* **none**
- *Optional parameters:*  
**charset: This parameter has semantics identical to the charset parameter of**

the "application/xml" media type as specified in [RFC 3023](#).

- *Encoding considerations:*  
**Identical to those of "application/xml" as described in [RFC 3023](#).**
- *Security considerations:*  
**The same security considerations as described in [RFC 3023](#), Section 10.**
- *Interoperability considerations:*  
**There are no known interoperability issues.**
- *Published specifications:*
  - **The MADS XML schema is at:**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mads/mads.xsd>.
  - **The home page for the MADS specification is**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mads/>
- *Applications that use this media type:*  
**Various MADS conformant toolkits use these respective media type.**
- *Additional information:* **None.**
- *Magic number(s):* **None**
- *File extension:* **.mads**
- *Macintosh file type code(s):* **TEXT**
- *Person & email address to contact for further information:*  
**Ray Denenberg, [rden@loc.gov](mailto:rden@loc.gov)**
- *Intended usage:* **common**
- *Restrictions on usage:* **none**
- *Author/Change controller:*  
**The MADS specification, similarly, was developed by the Library of Congress and is maintained by the Library of Congress in conjunction with the [MODS Editorial Committee](#) which has change control over the specification.**

#### **4. Registration Information for mets+xml**

- *Type name:* **application**
- *Subtype name:* **mets+xml**
- *Required parameters:* **none**

- *Optional parameters:*  
**charset:** This parameter has semantics identical to the charset parameter of the "application/xml" media type as specified in [RFC 3023](#).
- *Encoding considerations:*  
**Identical to those of "application/xml"** as described in [RFC 3023](#).
- *Security considerations:*  
**The same security considerations as described in [RFC 3023](#), Section 10.**
- *Interoperability considerations:*  
**There are no known interoperability issues.**
- *Published specifications:*
  - **The METS XML schema is at:**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mets/mets.xsd>
  - **The home page for the METS specification is**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/mets/>
- *Applications that use this media type:*  
**Various METS conformant toolkits use these respective media type.**
- *Additional information:* **None.**
- *Magic number(s):* **None**
- *File extension:* **.mets**
- *Macintosh file type code(s):* **TEXT**
- *Person & email address to contact for further information:*  
**Ray Denenberg, [rden@loc.gov](mailto:rden@loc.gov)**
- *Intended usage:* **common**
- *Restrictions on usage:* **none**
- *Author/Change controller:*  
**The METS standard is maintained by the Library of Congress in conjunction with the [METS Editorial Board](#) as an initiative of the [Digital Library Federation](#).**

## **5. Registration Information for marcxml+xml**

- *Type name:* **application**
- *Subtype name:* **marcxml+xml**
- *Required parameters:* **none**

- *Optional parameters:*  
**charset:** This parameter has semantics identical to the charset parameter of the "application/xml" media type as specified in [RFC 3023](#).
- *Encoding considerations:*  
**Identical to those of "application/xml"** as described in [RFC 3023](#).
- *Security considerations:*  
**The same security considerations as described in [RFC 3023](#), Section 10.**
- *Interoperability considerations:*  
**There are no known interoperability issues.**
- *Published specifications:*
  - **The MARCXML XML schema is at:**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/marcxml/schema/MARC21slim.xsd>
  - **The home page for the MARCXML specification is**  
<http://www.loc.gov/standards/marcxml/>;
- *Applications that use this media type:*  
**Various MARCXML conformant toolkits use these respective media type.**
- *Additional information:* **None.**
- *Magic number(s):* **None**
- *File extension:* **.mrcx**
- *Macintosh file type code(s):* **TEXT**
- *Person & email address to contact for further information:*  
**Ray Denenberg, [rden@loc.gov](mailto:rden@loc.gov)**
- *Intended usage:* **common**
- *Restrictions on usage:* **none**
- *Author/Change controller*  
**The MARCXML standard is driven by the [MARC standards](#), maintained at the Library of Congress.**

## **6. Registration Information for sru+xml**

- *Type name:* **application**
- *Subtype name:* **sru+xml**
- *Required parameters:* **none**
- *Optional parameters:*

**charset:** This parameter has semantics identical to the charset parameter of the "application/xml" media type as specified in [RFC 3023](#).

- *Encoding considerations:*  
**Identical to those of "application/xml" as described in [RFC 3023](#).**
- *Security considerations:*  
**The same security considerations as described in [RFC 3023](#), Section 10.**
- *Interoperability considerations:*  
**There are no known interoperability issues.**
- *Published specifications:*
  - **The OASIS Search Web Services Technical Committee public page is at [http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc\\_home.php?wg\\_abbrev=search-ws](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc_home.php?wg_abbrev=search-ws)**
  - **The current draft of SRU 2.0 is at <http://www.oasis-open.org/apps/org/workgroup/search-ws/download.php/32233/sru-2-0%20%20sixth%20draft.doc>**  
**The media type application/sru+xml is described in Annex A, and the XML schema is in A.3.**
  - **Versions earlier than 2.0 are maintained at <http://www.loc.gov/standards/sru/>.**
- *Applications that use this media type:*  
**Various SRU conformant toolkits use these respective media type.**
- *Additional information:* **None.**
- *Magic number(s):* **None**
- *File extension:* **.sru**
- *Macintosh file type code(s):* **TEXT**
- *Person & email address to contact for further information:*  
**Ray Denenberg, [rden@loc.gov](mailto:rden@loc.gov)**
- *Intended usage:* **common**
- *Restrictions on usage:* **none**
- *Author/Change controller*  
**The SRU specification for versions earlier than 2.0 is maintained at the Library of Congress, in conjunction with the [SRU Editorial Board](#). Version 2.0 (for which the sru+xml media type pertains) is being developed within [OASIS](#).**

## **7. Editor's Address**

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